

REMARKS

Prior to the present amendment, claims 1-12 were pending in the present application. By the present amendment, claims 14 and 15 have been added. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 7. Accordingly, claim 7 has been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-6, 8-12, 14 and 15 are pending in the present application. Support for new claim 14 can be found in paragraph 26. Support for new claim 15 can be found in paragraph 11.

As requested in the previous responses, Applicants request confirmation that all the references submitted in the IDS of December 20, 2001 and March 22, 2002 are under the Examiner's consideration. An initialed copy of the PTO Form 1449s submitted with each of the above-mentioned IDSs were not attached to the last Office Action.

Rejection of Claims 1, 3-7 and 12 Under 35 U.S. C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-7 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly rendered obvious by U.S. Patent No. 4,709,991 ("the '991 patent") to Hoshikawa in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,526,818 ("the '818 patent") to Hoshikawa.

The present claims recite a molded article molded into a lens. As is known in the art, a lens has a specific structural configuration. The '991 patent and '818 patent describe liquid crystal display panels, not lenses. A liquid crystal display panel is an entirely different structure than a lens. As such, Applicants submit that claims 1-12, 14 and 15 are not rendered obvious by the '991 patent and the '818 patent and Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection.

Regarding claims 14 and 15, neither a protective sheet layer comprising an acylcellulose resin nor a thermally molded resin layer selected from the group consisting of polyamide, thermoplastic polyurethane, and polycarbonate is described by the cited references. As such, Applicants submit that these claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the cited references.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections to the present application have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees or to credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this response to Kenyon & Kenyon's Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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